

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/066,167

Examiner

Sajous Wesner

Applicant(s)

BOLER ET AL.

Art Unit

2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment dated 4/25/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-11,14,16-26,28-32,34,35,41 and 42.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remark

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment and response dated 4/25/2006. Claims 1, 3-11, 14, 16-26, and 28-32, 34-35, 39, and 41-42 are presented for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 3-11, 14, 16-26, and 28-32, 34-35, 39, and 41-42, after further reconsideration and search, are allowed over the prior art.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Applicants, by amendments, have incorporated allowable subject matters into the previously rejected base, namely: editing a media object that comprises an image by enabling a user to selectively edit the representation of the media object by applying a modification to the representation by cropping the representation of the media object and then producing metadata that define the modification, wherein the metadata includes a size and a position of a crop outline on the representation of the image to indicate limits of a cropped image (as recited in claims 1, 14 in conjunction with other

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limitations in the claims). Independent claims 25 and 31 are allowed over the prior art for reasons indicated in the previous office action.

Christopoulos (US 6961754) discloses a method of manipulating multimedia data by accessing a database containing the description of media object and allowing an end-user to modify the media object by cropping, resizing and rotating the image and selecting a particular ROI from the image as a whole prior to making that object available to another end-user. See Christopoulos' col. 7, line 45 to col. 8, line 8. However, Christopoulos fails to teach the production of metadata that define the modification of a media object, wherein the metadata includes a size and a position of a crop outline on the representation of the image to indicate limits of a cropped image; and then storing the metadata that define the modification of the media object, without modifying the data that define the media object. In addition, Christopoulos fails to teach a method for lossless editing of a media object that enables representation, user modification, rendering and storing of the media object, wherein the method further comprises subsequently accessing the media object and metadata; rendering the representation of the media object as defined by the metadata; enabling the user to further modify the first modification of the representation to produce a second modification and producing metadata that define the second modification; and storing the metadata that now define the second modification of the media object, without modifying the data that define the media object (as recited in claims 25 and 31).

Accordingly, the limitations of claims 1, 3-11, 14, 16-26, and 28-32, 34-35, 39, and 41-42 of the instant application are allowed over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sajous Wesner whose telephone number is 571-272-7791. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays thru Fridays between 10:30 and 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on 571-272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Wesner Sajous

6/21/06